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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

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1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4 and 10, 11, 13, 14, 19-22, and 27 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being obvious over by Lu (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,346) in view of Monahan (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,124); claim 2 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Lu (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,346) in view of Monahan (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,124) and further in view of Serfaty (U.S. Patent No. 4,651,026); and claim 3 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Lu (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,346) in view of Monahan (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,124) and further in view of Roberts (U.S. Patent No. 4,575,683). In addition, the Examiner allowed claims 11-27 and objected to claims 5-9 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claims 1-4 and 6-27 are currently pending in this application. Claim 1 is currently amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. These rejections have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-4, and 10.

2. Allowed claim 20 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

3. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance and favorable treatment of claims 5-9 and 11-27. Claims 1, 4, and 10 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Lu in view of Monahan. Claim 1 has

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been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 5. For this reason, claim 1 and claims 2-4 and 6-10 that depend therefrom are believed to be patentably distinct from the prior art.

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For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1-4, 6-27 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: /Bruce E. Stuckman reg. 36,693/
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to fax number (571) 273-8300 addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on the date below:

09/06/2006

Diane Hudson

Date

Signature